

10/509242

DT04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 SEP 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) An initiator incorporated in an inflator and adapted to trigger the inflator through propagation of flame from an initiating explosive to a gas generator of the inflator, wherein the initiator comprises a single closed-bottomed tubular capsule for accommodating the initiating explosive, and a tubular portion itself of the capsule comprises a plurality of rupture-accelerating means for accelerating rupture upon ignition of the initiating explosive.
3. (Previously Presented) An initiator incorporated in an inflator and adapted to trigger the inflator through propagation of flame from an initiating explosive to a gas generator of the inflator, wherein the initiator comprises a single closed-bottomed tubular capsule for accommodating the initiating explosive, and a corner connection portion itself of the capsule, which portion connects a tubular portion and a bottom portion of the capsule, comprises a plurality of rupture-accelerating means for accelerating rupture upon ignition of the initiating explosive.
- 4-10. (Canceled)
11. (Currently Amended) An initiator according to ~~claim 2 or 3~~, claim 2, wherein the capsule itself comprises guide means for guiding detonation force induced from ignition of the initiating explosive toward the rupture-accelerating means.
- 12-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) An initiator according to claim 2, wherein the rupture-accelerating means is strength-weakening means implemented such that strength of the tubular portion of the capsule is weakened as compared with that of the bottom portion of the capsule.

17. (Original) An initiator according to claim 16, wherein the strength-weakening means is configured such that a wall thickness of the tubular portion of the capsule is reduced as compared with that of the bottom portion of the capsule.

18. (Original) An initiator according to claim 16, wherein the strength-weakening means is a fragile part provided at the tubular portion of the capsule.

19. (Original) An initiator according to claim 18, wherein the fragile part is a groove.

20. (Original) An initiator according to claim 16, wherein the strength-weakening means is a configuration such that the bottom portion of the capsule convexly protrudes into an interior of the capsule so as to relatively weaken strength of the tubular portion.

21. (Original) An initiator according to claim 20, wherein a fragile part is provided at the tubular portion of the capsule and is biased toward the bottom portion of the capsule from a position corresponding to a tip of a convex shape of the bottom portion.

22. (Original) An initiator according to claim 21, wherein the fragile part is a groove.

23. (Previously Presented) An initiator according to claim 2, wherein the rupture-accelerating means is detonation-force-enhancing means implemented such that detonation force to be imposed on the tubular portion of the capsule is greater than that to be imposed on the bottom portion of the capsule.

24. (Original) An initiator according to claim 23, wherein the detonation-force-enhancing means is implemented such that the amount of an initiating explosive for rupturing the tubular portion of the capsule is greater than that of an initiating explosive for rupturing the bottom portion of the capsule.

25. (Original) An initiator according to claim 23, wherein the detonation-force-enhancing means is implemented such that an initiating explosive for rupturing the tubular portion of the capsule is greater in detonation force than an initiating explosive for rupturing the bottom portion of the capsule.

26-27. (Canceled)

28. (New) An initiator according to claim 3, wherein the capsule itself comprises guide means for guiding detonation force induced from ignition of the initiating explosive toward the rupture-accelerating means.